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January 17, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:


I'm writing to encourage you to support the recent antitrust settlement reached between Microsoft and the United States Department of Justice. I believe it is now time to end this senseless litigation so Microsoft can move forward with the business of developing innovative software.

As part of the settlement, Microsoft has agreed to grant broad new rights to computer makers and software developers to reconfigure Windows so that Microsoft products can be removed and competitive products can be installed in their places. Further, Microsoft has agreed to not retaliate against computer manufacturers or software developers who choose to do this. Nor will Microsoft retaliate against computer makers who choose to ship operating systems that directly compete with Microsoft Windows.

Overseeing compliance of the settlement will be a "Technical Committee" comprised of three software engineering experts. This committee will also assist in any dispute resolution should a complaint be filed by anyone who believes Microsoft is not complying with the terms of the settlement.

For these reasons, I encourage you to support this settlement so we can put this business behind us and move forward to develop better, more innovative software.

Sincerely,


Rozann Cherry